

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing machine-readable instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the following operations:

enable a sender to input a message;

enable the sender to append an attachment to the message;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of a plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment sent to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment;

and

transmit the message over a network to the plurality of recipients wherein, the transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment uses less bandwidth of the network than the transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality recipients to receive the message with the attachment.

2. (Currently amended) The article of claim 1 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from a first computer to a second computer over the network.

3. (Currently amended) The article of claim 2 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the second computer over an Internet network.

4. (Currently amended) The article of claim 2 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the second computer over a local area network (LAN).

5. (Currently amended) The article of claim 2 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the second computer over a wide area network(WAN).

6. (Currently amended) ~~The article of claim 1 including instructions that, when applied to the machine, cause the machine to to~~

An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing machine-readable instructions that, when executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the following operations:

enable a sender to input a message;

enable the sender to append an attachment to the message;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of a plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

enable the sender to designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

enable the each recipient to create and edit a recipient profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of ~~current~~ and prospective attachments; and

transmit the message over a network to the plurality of recipients wherein, the transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment uses less bandwidth of the network than the transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality recipients to receive the message with the attachment.

7. (Currently amended) An article comprising a machine-readable medium storing machine-readable instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to perform the following operations:

allow a sender to designate a plurality of recipients of electronic mail;

transmit the electronic mail over a network to the plurality of recipients;

associate each of the plurality of recipients with one of the following categories:

a first category to indicate that the recipient is a primary recipient of the electronic mail and is to receive both a text message and an attached file;

a second category to indicate that the recipient is a secondary recipient of the electronic mail and is to receive both a text message and the attached file;

a third category to indicate that the recipient is a tertiary recipient of the electronic mail and is to receive a text message without the attached file,

incorporate an icon in the electronic mail of the third category, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to either the primary recipient or the secondary recipient;

wherein transmission to the tertiary recipient of the electronic mail uses less bandwidth of the network than the transmission to either the primary recipient or the secondary recipient.

8. (Currently amended) The article of claim 7 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to associate the sender with a first computer and associate each of the plurality of recipients with one of a plurality of computers connected over the network.

9. (Currently amended) The article of claim 8 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the one of the plurality of computers over an Internet network.

10. (Currently amended) The article of claim 8 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the one of the plurality of computers over a local area network (LAN).

11. (Currently amended) The article of claim 8 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to send the message from the first computer to the one of the plurality of computers over a wide area network (WAN).

12. (Currently amended) An apparatus to transmit electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients comprising:

a port for coupling the apparatus to a network; and

a processor;

wherein the processor is configured to:

enable means for a sender to append an attachment to an electronic mail message;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message without the attachment;

incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment; and

enable means to transmit the electronic mail message over the network using less bandwidth of the network for the message without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

13. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the sender and the recipients are computers connected to the network.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the network is the Internet.

15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the network is a local area network (LAN).

16. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the network is wide area network (WAN).

17. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to~~

An apparatus to transmit electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients comprising:

a port for coupling the apparatus to a network; and

a processor;

wherein the processor is configured to:

enable means for a sender to append an attachment to an electronic mail message;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment;

enable means for the sender to designate at least one recipient to receive the message without the attachment;

enable means for ~~the~~ each recipient to create and edit a recipient profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of ~~current~~ and prospective attachments; and

enable means to transmit the electronic mail message over the network using less bandwidth of the network for the message without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

18. (Currently amended) A method for transmitting electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients, comprising:

inputting a message;

appending an attachment to the message;

designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;

incorporating an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment; and

transmitting the message over a network using less bandwidth of the network for the message without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

19. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 18, wherein the sender and the recipients are computers connected to the network.

20. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the network is the Internet.

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the network is a local area network (LAN).

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 19, wherein the network is wide area network (WAN).

23. (Currently amended) ~~The method according to claim 18, further comprising~~  
A method for transmitting electronic mail from a sender to a plurality of recipients,  
comprising:  
inputting a message;  
appending an attachment to the message;  
designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and  
the attachment;  
designating at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message  
without the attachment;  
enabling [[the]] each recipient to create and edit a recipient profile, the profile including  
the recipient's preferences with regard to receipt of current and prospective attachments; and  
transmitting the message over a network using less bandwidth of the network for the  
message without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

24. (Currently amended) A program-controlled apparatus operable to communicate via e-mail with one or more recipient computers, the apparatus ~~being operable~~ configured to allow a user of the apparatus to perform the following operations:

input a message;  
append an attachment to the message;  
designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and  
the attachment;  
designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message  
without the attachment; and  
transmit the message over a network using less bandwidth of the network for the message  
without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

wherein the apparatus is configured to incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment to transmit to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

25. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the apparatus and the recipients are computers connected to a network.

26. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the network is the Internet.

27. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the network is a local area network (LAN).

28. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 25, wherein the network is wide area network (WAN).

29. (Currently amended) ~~The apparatus according to claim 24, the apparatus further being operable to~~

A program-controlled apparatus operable to communicate via e-mail with one or more recipient computers, the apparatus configured to allow a user of the apparatus to perform the following operations:

input a message;

append an attachment to the message;

designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment;

designate at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message without the attachment;



enable [[the]] each recipient to create and edit a recipient profile, the profile including the recipient's preferences with regard to ~~current and~~ prospective receipt of attachments; and  
transmit the message over a network using less bandwidth of the network for the message without the attachment than the message with the attachment.

30. (Canceled) The article of claim 1 including instructions that, when applied to the machine, cause the machine to incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment sent to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

31. (Currently amended) The article of claim [[30]] 1 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to name the icon the same name as the attachment sent to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

32. (Canceled) The article of claim 7 including instructions that, when applied to the machine, cause the machine to incorporate an icon in the electronic mail of the third category, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to either the primary recipient or the secondary recipient.

33. (Currently amended) The article of claim [[32]] 7 including instructions that, when ~~applied to~~ executed by the machine, cause the machine to name the icon the same name as the attachment for transmission to either the primary recipient or the secondary recipient.

34. (Canceled) The apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the processor is configured to enable means to incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

35. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[34]]~~ 12, wherein the processor is configured to enable means to name the icon the same name as the attachment sent to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

36. (Canceled) The method according to claim 18 comprising incorporating an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment for transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment.

37. (Currently amended) The method according to claim ~~[[36]]~~ 18 comprising naming the icon the same name as the attachment for transmission to the at least one recipient of the plurality of recipients to receive the message and the attachment.

38. (Canceled) The apparatus according to claim 24, wherein the processor is configured to incorporate an icon in the message without the attachment, the icon indicative of the attachment to transmit to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.

39. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim ~~[[38]]~~ 24, wherein the processor is configured to name the icon the same name as the attachment sent to the at least one recipient to receive the message with the attachment.